

- VAN DYKE, E. C. 1942. Contributions toward a knowledge of the insect fauna of Lower California, No. 3, Coleoptera: Buprestidae. Proc. California Acad. Sci. 24:97-132.
- VAN DYKE, E. C. 1946. New species of North American Coleoptera. Pan-Pac. Ent. 22:83, 84.
- VOGT, G. B. 1949. A biologically annotated list of the Buprestidae of the lower Rio Grande Valley, Texas. Ann. Ent. Soc. America 42(2):191-202.

FIELD NOTES

THE POSSIBILITY OF DISCOVERING NEW SPECIES IN THE GENUS OBEREA (COLEOPTERA: CERAMBYCIDAE) This note is intended as a supplement to my paper in The Coleopterists' Bulletin (1962, 16:5-12) where I record the host for sixteen of the twenty-one species of *Oberea* listed. It seems unquestionable that several species can be properly determined only by field study since museum specimens proved to be inadequate. I wish therefore to direct attention to the valuable information contained in the paper, "Notes on Cerambycidae," Ent. News, 36:139-142, 1925 by Champlain, Kirk, and Knull. This paper was not included in my literature citations as it had no specific taxonomic content. However, it is important to note that they found *Oberea* larvae (which to date can not be satisfactorily identified) working in twenty-seven different hosts near Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. For at least eleven of the host genera I know of no authentic records which would associate them with a known species of *Oberea*. In four cases, they list more than one species of the genus which is attacked by the larvae. Their locality appears to be an ideal focal point from which anyone could make field studies of the majority of Eastern North American species.—STANTON D. HICKS, Entomology Research Institute, Research Branch, Canada Department of Agriculture, Ottawa, Ontario.

BRACHYPTEROLUS PULICARIUS L. (Nitidulidae) was shown by Parson, 1943, in Rev. of Nearctic Nitidulidae. Bull. of Mus. of Comp. Zool., Harvard college, vol. XCII, No. 3 to have only a Palearctic distribution prior to 1918. In the above monograph he noted that the beetle then ranged from Nova Scotia to Wisconsin. While collecting in the Selkirk Mts., Boundary Co., Idaho, elevation 6000 feet, a specimen was taken on flowers. Hatch does not include this species in Part III of his Beetles of the Pacific Northwest (1962).—N. M. D.

OBSERVATION ON PELECOTOMA FLAVIPES MELSHEIMER. (COLEOPTERA: RHIPIPHORIDAE) Rivney (1929 Revision of the Rhipiphoridae of North and South America. *Memoirs of the American Ent. Soc.* #6) reports that the biology of *Pelecotoma flavipes* is still unknown. However he believes it to be similar to that of the European *Pelecotoma fennica* (Paykull) which lives as a parasite on *Ptilinus* and *Trypoxylon* larvae. *P. flavipes* is considered rare and the author has taken it only by sweeping.

On 27 June 1967 I observed a female *P. flavipes*, near Wheatley Ontario, on the trunk of a dead elm devoid of bark. This trunk was riddled with holes caused by old and new attack of *Ptilinus ruficornis* Say. The beetle was running up and down on the sunny side of the trunk, pausing, and inspecting several of these holes. After a few minutes I captured it for fear it might enter the wood and escape.¹

Even though this brief observation is not conclusive, it seems to lend much weight to the theory of its biology advanced by Rivnay.

To aid future observers it might be pointed out, that in the field *P. flavipes* is easily mistaken for one of many small, black *Mordellids* often found about dead wood. Its movements are strikingly similar. However *P. flavipes* is more parallel bodied and lacks a stylus on the abdomen. The flabellate (male) or pectinate (female) are hard to see in the field.—K. STEPHENS, Tucson, Ariz.

¹On several occasions the editor has taken as many as 10 specimens of this species on the bark of erect, dead beech trees. In Tippecanoe Co., Indiana they have been taken on dead oak.